

claims 38-46. Applicant also has cancelled claims 1-18, 23 and 25-37 in view of the restriction requirement. In view of the amendments to the claims, it is believed that the rejections have been obviated. It is respectfully submitted that no reference of record teaches or suggests Applicants' unique combination of steps for creating either a library of different semiconductor or metal-containing materials within an array, or a library of such materials for screening for a useful property, such as for catalytic activity. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the present rejections and allow the case.

The actions taken are in the interest of expediting prosecution and with no intention of surrendering any range of equivalents to which Applicants would otherwise be entitled in view of the prior art.

Basis for these amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings, and claims as originally filed, including but not limited to the specification at pages 7-9 and the examples.

In short, Applicants believe that the claims as filed and certainly as now amended patentably distinguish over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the present rejections and allowance of the pending claims.

Petition for Extension of Time

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), Applicants hereby respectfully request a two (2) month extension of time in which to respond to the Examiner's Office Action mailed September 1, 1999. Applicants authorize to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0496 for \$190.00 to cover the fee associated with this extension. This extension will extend the time in which a response is due to February 1, 2000.

If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent the abandonment of this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge any additional fees which may be required to effect this communication or to maintain the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 50-0496.

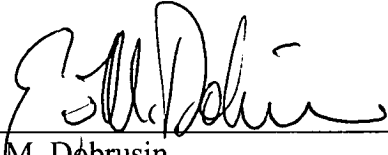
Conclusions

In view of Applicants' amendment and remarks, the Examiner's rejections are believed to be rendered moot. Accordingly, in view of the instant amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner pass the case to issue at the earliest convenience. Should the Examiner have any question or wish to further discuss this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (248) 593-9900.

If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent the abandonment of this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0496 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1/28, 2000


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